

HONORING RICHARD H. BENNETT,
PASCO, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 23, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero and Purple Heart recipient, Mr. Richard H. Bennett of Shady Hills, FL. A proud member of our Nation's military during Vietnam, Mr. Bennett honorably defended the freedoms that all Americans hold dear.

Born on August 10, 1949 to Harry and Claire Bennett in Canandaigua, New York, Richard began his service to the Army in June of 1969. Shortly thereafter he was deployed to Vietnam where he fought courageously, putting his life on the line every day. During his tour he suffered shrapnel in his back on account of gunfire, wounds to his left arm and left leg due to an ambush firefight in the jungle, and was exposed to Agent Orange. Along with his Purple Heart Medal, Mr. Bennett is a recipient of the Vietnam Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Following Mr. Bennett's service in the Army, he worked with "Somebody Loves You Ministries" helping the less fortunate improve their lives.

Madam Speaker, it is important to recognize Americans like Richard H. Bennett for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. Our Nation, this Congress, and Mr. Bennett's family and friends, will always remember his bravery and dedication.

HONORING ELEANOR CAINES 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 23, 2009

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the life of a wonderful American and personal friend, Eleanor Caines, as she celebrates her 100th Birthday.

I know that I join family and friends in extending our best wishes as she reaches this special life milestone.

It has been my privilege to know Eleanor for more than three decades as we attended Maitland's Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd.

Nearly always several pews in front of the Mica family, Eleanor has been one of the most faithful parishioners of the congregation.

Her special smile, warm greeting and positive glow have brightened both the day and the path of those she meets!

A native of Asheville, North Carolina, whose family hailed from Massachusetts, Eleanor honorably served in the WACS during World War II. She and her late husband, Basil, who passed in 1982, resided in Central Florida.

Active in Church and community affairs, the Boston University graduate has faithfully been a strong supporter of veterans and university alumni affairs.

It is wonderful people like Eleanor Caines who every day of their lives have worked and

contributed to make this a great nation. I know that I join her niece and nephew, Charlotte and David Hunt, family and friends at Mayflower and fellow parishioners at the Church of the Good Shepherd in extending our best wishes to Eleanor Caines as she celebrates this special birthday. I know my colleagues also join in saying thank you to a special American, Eleanor Caines!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 23, 2009

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday and missed roll-call No. 804. If present, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2166 IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 22 AND 658

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 23, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Council of the city of New York's Resolution No. 2166, calling upon the U.S. House to pass H.R. 658—the Access to Postal Services Act. Thanks to our work in Congress, H.R. 22—the U.S. Postal Service Financial Relief Act, has passed the House and similar legislation has cleared the Senate. This great legislation assists the U.S. Postal Service with financial expenses and stops the unnecessary closure of neighborhood post offices, increasing community input as the Postal Service reorganizes its branches throughout the city of New York.

If we do not follow-up with the speedy passage of H.R. 658, the Postal Service will be forced to close over 700 locations throughout the United States, including 53 locations in New York city alone. In addition to the borough of Queens, Manhattan will be adversely affected with the closure of 25 locations, which includes my Harlem community.

In my own district, the Tejeda Post Office was almost a victim to these closures. The well-regarded institution was named after a member of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment who was killed during combat operations in Baghdad, Iraq on April 11, 2003. He died at the tender age of 26. But thanks to the help of people like District Leader Maria Luna, City Councilman Robert Jackson and Assemblyman Denny Farrell and Adriano Espailat, as well as Councilmember-Elect Ydanis Rodriguez, Community Board 12, and the Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation, a grassroots coalition came together and demanded that it remain open.

We ought to work to make sure that nothing of the sort happens in communities across this great nation. Both these bills will assist people in staying connected with the world, while not hoisting greater financial burdens on New Yorkers or other Americans who rely on these nearby post offices. Senior citizens and low-income Americans would be most vulnerable to

these shutdowns, and as Americans, we ought to look after the most vulnerable in our society. May the Congress work as quickly as it can to alleviate this problem and ensure that these post offices remain open.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF JONESBOROUGH VETERANS PARK

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 23, 2009

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I am so proud to recognize and commend the town of Jonesborough and Washington County for its 10th year anniversary of the Jonesborough Veterans Park. In 1999, Washington County celebrated this park at the groundbreaking ceremony, and on Memorial Day of 2000, the Jonesborough Veterans' Park construction was completed.

Memorial Day of 2000 was extra special for veterans all throughout Washington County because of the Jonesborough Veterans Park.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced a Resolution, congratulating the Jonesborough Veterans Park for their 10th anniversary and for a decade of successful management and preservation of the park land. This will be a reminder that we in the First District are committed to honoring our veterans.

I want to thank the volunteers in Washington County who worked on this park and who remain dedicated to honoring our veterans.

CHAIRMAN SEUNG YOUN KIM'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 23, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Seung Youn Kim, Chairman of the Hanwha Group, in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

OCTOBER 1, 2009.

Hon. ENI FALEOMAVAEGA,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN FALEOMAVAEGA: I would like to offer my deepest condolences to you and the people of Samoa for the losses and sufferings caused by the natural disaster yesterday.

Everyone in my family was shocked by seeing the devastated sites of Pago Pago and Leone through the media, I am greatly concerned on the tragic news, not as a bystander but a personal friend of yours.

I can only imagine the grief that you must feel and the immensity of the tasks you face, but I also know that you are a man of undefeatable courage who will once again lead the way out from this disaster. It is slightly relieving to me that acts of courage and kindness surfaced and that the U.S. government and the international society take